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NOTICE NO. SECURITY 27 August 1954

LIMITATIONS ON OUTSIDE ACTIVITIES

RELEASE OF AGENCY INFORMATION TO PUBLIC INFORMATION MEDIA OR REPRESENTATIVES THEREOF

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Reference: Notice No.

- 1. The National Security Council has stated that any publicity, factual or fictional, concerning intelligence is potentially detrimental to the effectiveness of an intelligence activity and to the national security.
- 2. Public information media are those written, oral or pictorial activities designed to inform the public, such as newspapers, radio, magazines, television, motion picture, newsreels, etc. Representatives of such media have, as their basic purpose, the collection and publication of all information of interest to the public and, in particular, information concerning the conduct of official business in the Government. This purpose is, of course, in conflict with the policy of the National Security Council set forth in paragraph 1 above. Consequently, firm controls are required on all contacts between Agency employees and representatives of such public information media.
- 3. Relations of CIA and its employees with public information media and representatives thereof are centralized in the Office of the Director of Central Intelligence and are controlled through a Special Assistant to the Director designated for that purpose, hereinafter referred to as the Assistant.
- a. All inquiries from media representatives will be referred to the Assistant.
- b. Employees of the Agency will have no contact with representatives of public information media for the purpose of furnishing official information for publication except with the prior approval of the Director or the Assistant.
- c. In addition, employees will not have contact with representatives of public information media when it is reasonable to believe that such contact will result in publication concerning official matters unless authorized by the Director or the Assistant.
- d. In view of the basic conflict between the function of representatives of public information media and the National Security

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Council policy concerning publicity in intelligence matters, employees are further urged to avoid any contacts with such representatives which might result in the misuse or misconstrual of statements made by employees on matters of public interest. If such contact is unavoidable, it is incumbent upon employees to be circumspect in their conversation and to avoid discussion of controversial public matters.

- 4. Unless otherwise specifically authorized by the Director, any contact with public information media representatives, whether authorized in advance or not, will be reported immediately by the employee concerned to the Assistant to the Director. Such reports will be in writing and will give the name of the representative to whom the employee spoke, the publication represented, a summary of the information furnished or the matters of public interest discussed, and, if applicable, the reason for not having obtained prior clearance.
- 5. This Notice supersedes any prior Regulations in conflict with its provisions and is applicable to all employees immediately upon issuance.